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09/771,880

01/30/2001

Hiroshi Hagane

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02/08/2005

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS
 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
 Washington, DC 20037

EXAMINER

ORGAD, EDAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2684

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 09/771,880 | Applicant(s) HAGANE, HIROSHI | |
| | Examiner Edan Orgad | Art Unit 2684 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 12-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 12-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-10 and 12-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen (European Patent Application # 859,500) in view of Wise et al (US # 5,884,262).

Regarding claim 1, Chen teaches of an information search system (Figures 1 - 4) comprising: a terminal having a speech communication function and packet communication function (Figures 1 - 4 and column 2, lines 24 - 49); and a center for selectively performing speech communication and packet communication with said terminal (Figures 1 - 4 and column 2, lines 24 - 49), said center comprising speech control means for performing speech communication with said terminal during execution of packet communication by said terminal (Figures 1 - 4 and column 2, lines 24 - 49), information search means for searching for information on the basis of the speech information recognized by said speech recognition means (column 4, lines 44 - 51), speech conversion means for converting the speech information of the information searched out by said information search means into a speech signal and outputting the signal to said speech control means (Figures 1 - 4 and column 2, lines 24 - 49), the speech signal from said speech conversion means being transmitted to said terminal by said speech control means (Figures 1 - 4 and column 2, lines 24 - 49).

Chen does not specifically state speech recognition means for recognizing a speech signal received by said speech control means and sent from said terminal and packet control means for transmitting at least one of image information and character information of the information searched by said information search means to said terminal by packet communication (though it should be noted that Chen does teach of and packet control means for transmitting character information of the information searched by said information search means to said terminal by packet communication in column 3, lines 39-50).

In a related art dealing with searching internet databases using a mobile device, Wise teaches of speech recognition means for recognizing a speech signal received by said speech control means and sent from said terminal (column 6, lines 14-51) ; and packet control means for transmitting at least one of image information and character information of the information searched by said information search means to said terminal by packet communication (column 6, lines 51-67).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Chen's mobile inquiry system, Wise's voice recognition system, for the purposes of speaking user commands to access information for viewing.

Regarding claim 2, Chen teaches said information search means searches for information through the internet (Chen: Column 4, lines 52 - 57 and Figure 1).

Regarding claims 3 and 14, Chen teaches said system further comprises a table indicating a relationship between a self-station packet communication address of said terminal and a self-station speech communication address (Figure 2 and column 4, lines 44 - 58), and said speech control means looks up said table when speech communication is started, and notifies said packet

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control means of a self-station packet communication address corresponding to the self-station speech communication address of said terminal which is notified by the calling number identification notifying function (Figure 2 and column 4, lines 44 - 58).

Regarding claims 4 and 15, Chen teaches the self-station speech communication address is transmitted from said terminal to said center by packet communication, and the relationship between the self-station packet communication address of the packet communication and the self-station speech communication address transmitted from said terminal is registered in said table (Figure 2 and column 4, lines 44 - 58).

Regarding claims 5 and 16, Chen teaches a speech communication address of said center is designated by said center with respect to said terminal during execution of packet communication by said terminal (Chen: Figure 2 and column 4, lines 44 - 58), and a packet communication address of said terminal which has performed speech communication with said center is acquired by specifying said terminal from the terminated speech communication address (Chen: Figure 2 and column 4, lines 44 - 58).

Regarding claim 6, Chen teaches said center further comprises communication control means for switching speech communication by said speech control means and packet communication by said packet communication means (Figure 1 & column 3, lines 51 - 58 and column 4, lines 7-37).

Regarding claim 7, Chen teaches said terminal comprises switch means for alternately switching speech communication and packet communication (column 5, lines 23 - 35), and said communication control means performs switching operation in accordance with an output from said switch means (column 5, lines 23 - 35).

Regarding claim 8, Chen teaches said communication control means automatically performs switching operation under sequence control (column 5, lines 22 - 35).

Regarding claim 9, Chen teaches said terminal comprises a microphone to which speech transmitted to said center is input (Figure 1 and column 3, lines 41-46 & column 4, lines 54-57), a speaker for outputting a speech signal transmitted from said center (Figure 1 and column 3, lines 41-46 and column 2, lines 46-49), a display screen on which character information transmitted from said center is displayed (Figure 1 and column 3, lines 41 - 46), and a key operation section for performing dial-input operation (Figure 1 and column 3, lines 41-46) and Toru further teaches of a display screen on which character/image information transmitted from said center is displayed (abstract and page 4, paragraph 0032 of the 'retailed Description' translation packet and Drawings 1 and 20 - 23).

Regarding claim 10, Chen teaches said terminal comprises radio means for performing radio communication with a base station to which said center is connected (Figure 1 and starting column 3, line 53 and ending column 4, line 6), speech communication means for performing speech communication with said center (column 4, lines 7 - 37), packet communication means for performing packet communication with said center (column 6, lines 7-10 & column 5, lines 27-35), and communication control means for switching speech communication by said speech communication means and packet communication by said packet communication means (column 5, lines 22-35).

Regarding claim 11, Chen teaches of a terminal of an information search system for searching for information by selectively performing speech communication and packet communication with a center (Figures 1-4), comprising: a microphone to which speech

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transmitted to the center by speech communication is input (Figure 1 and column 3, lines 41-46 and column 4, lines 54 - 57); a speaker for outputting a speech signal transmitted from the center by speech communication (Figure 1 and column 3, lines 41 - 46 and column 2, lines 46 - 49); a display screen on which character information transmitted from the center by packet communication is displayed (column 3, lines 39 - 50); and a key operation section for performing dial-input operation (Figure 1 and column 2, lines 24 - 29).

Chen does not specifically teach of a display screen on which at least one of image information and character information transmitted from the center by packet communication is displayed (though it should be noted that Chen does teach of a display in column 5, lines 14-16).

In a related art dealing with searching Internet databases using a mobile device, Wise teaches of a display screen on which at least one of image information and character information transmitted from the center by packet communication is displayed (column 6, lines 14-51).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Chen's mobile inquiry system, Wise's voice recognition system, for the purposes of speaking user commands to access information for viewing.

Regarding claim 12, Chen teaches radio means for performing radio communication with a base station to which the center is connected (Figure 1 and column 3, line 53- column 4, line 6); speech communication means for inputting/outputting a speech signal between said speaker and said microphone by performing speech communication with said center (column 2, lines 29 - 38 and column 4, lines 54 - 58); communication control means for switching speech communication by said speech communication means and packet communication by said packet communication means (column 5, lines 23 - 35) and Chen further teach of packet communication

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means for outputting at least one of image information and character information to said display screen by performing packet communication with the center (Chen: column 5, lines 14 -35).

Regarding claim 13, A center of an information search system for searching for information by selectively performing speech communication and packet communication with a terminal (Figures 1 - 4), comprising: speech control means for performing speech communication with said terminal during execution of packet communication by said terminal (Figures 1 - 4 and column 2, lines 24 – 49), information search means for searching for information on the basis of the speech information recognized by said speech recognition means (column 4, lines 44 - 51), speech conversion means for converting the speech information of the information searched out by said information search means into a speech signal and outputting the signal to said speech control means (Figures 1-4 and column 2, lines 24-49), the speech signal from said speech conversion means being transmitted to said terminal by said speech control means (Figures 1- 4 and column 2, lines 24-49).

Chen does not specifically state speech recognition means for recognizing a speech signal received by said speech control means and sent from said terminal and packet control means for transmitting at least one of image information and character information of the information searched by said information search means to said terminal by packet communication (though it should be noted that Chen does teach of and packet control means for transmitting character information of the information searched by said information search means to said terminal by packet communication in column 3, lines 39 - 50).

In a related art dealing with searching internet databases using a mobile device, Wise teaches of speech recognition means for recognizing a speech signal received by said speech

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control means and sent from said terminal (column 6, lines 14-51); and packet control means for transmitting at least one of image information and character information of the information searched by said information search means to said terminal by packet communication (column 6, lines 52-67).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Chen's mobile inquiry system, Wise's voice recognition system, for the purposes of speaking user commands to access information for viewing.

Regarding claim 17, Chen teaches a communication control means for switching speech communication by said speech control means and packet communication by said packet communication means in accordance with switching operation of the terminal (column 5, lines 23 - 35).

Regarding claim 18, Chen teaches of a center of an information search system for searching for information by performing speech communication and packet communication with a terminal (Figures 1 - 4) comprising: speech control means for performing speech communication with said terminal during execution of packet communication by said terminal (Figures 1 - 4 and column 2, lines 24 - 49), information search means for searching for information on the basis of the speech information recognized by said speech recognition means (column 4, lines 44 - 51) and packet control means for transmitting said information of the information searched by said information search means to said terminal by packet communication (column 3, lines 39 - 50).

Chen does not specifically state speech recognition means for recognizing a speech signal received by said speech control means and sent from the terminal.

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In a related art dealing with searching internet databases using a mobile device, Wise teaches of speech recognition means for recognizing a speech signal received by said speech control means and sent from said terminal (column 6, lines 14-51).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Chen's mobile inquiry system, Wise's voice recognition system, for the purposes of speaking user commands to access information for viewing.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 and 12-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edan Orgad whose telephone number is 703-305-4223. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM to 5:30PM with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on 703-308-7745. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Edan Orgad

4.6

February 4, 2005


NAY MAUNG

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER